

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2000-0040-C - ORDER NO. 2000-755
SEPTEMBER 11, 2000

IN RE: Petition of e.spire Communications, Inc. for) ORDER
Arbitration of an Interconnection Agreement) CLOSING
Between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.) DOCKET
Pursuant to Section 252(b) of the)
Communications Act of 1934, as Amended.)

On January 21, 2000, e.spire Communications, Inc. ("e.spire") filed a Petition for Arbitration with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission"). The Petition requested arbitration of an interconnection agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Petition was docketed and a scheduling order was issued. (See, Commission Order No. 2000-0124, dated February 3, 2000, "Order Establishing Arbitration Plan and Schedule") Before the scheduled hearing was opened, the parties notified the Commission that negotiations were almost complete and that the arbitration hearing would not be required. On the representation of the parties that the arbitration hearing was not needed, the Commission cancelled the scheduled hearing.

By letter dated August 17, 2000, counsel for e.spire informed the Commission that e.spire and BellSouth have executed an interconnection agreement and that BellSouth would be filing the agreement with the Commission. The Commission notes that BellSouth has filed with the Commission for approval an interconnection agreement


between BellSouth and e.spire and that the interconnection agreement was approved at the Commission meeting held on August 29, 2000. (See Docket No. 96-264-C).

Upon consideration of the letter from e.spire and the filing of an interconnection agreement by BellSouth, the Commission finds and concludes that the instant docket should be closed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The instant docket shall be closed.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)